G. R. S. IX-5]

Previous references.

Sany 71-1823

1918-19

(Sany)

File No. 71-1

Serial Nos. 1-2

Later references.

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

P.15/E

Serial Nos. 1-2

Part B for January 1919

SUBJECT.

Contamination of the Spare yard at Bethamangalam Water Works

---

2) To The Secy to G.T. Mining Board Coorgaum.

No G/4232 D 11-1-19.

I forward a copy of the inspection note of the Sanitary Officer & State that the animals referred to are not likely to endanger the supply of Water Bethamangalam Tank.

H.B. Evans
6/2/19

W D 88—GPB—50,000—24-7-16

G. R. S. III-1]

1918/19

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT

(Sans)

NOTES.

File No. 71-18

FILE HEADING.

Examination of the Drainage Syd at Bethamangalam Water Works.

From

The Sany Comr

No. Dated 8-1-19 Received

Diary No. 8903 Enclos. — Spare Copies. [Serial No. 1

BRIEF ABSTRACT OF LETTERS.

Forwards the notes of his inspection of the above place on the 7th instant.

NOTES AND ORDERS.

NOTES—First Sheet.

G. R. S. 12]
General and Revenue Secretariat.

San File No. 24 8903 of 1918 2

Serial No. 2

To The Secy. K. E. T. Mining Board
Coorgaum.

ROC 14232 D 11-1-19

Forwards a copy of the Sanr Commrs report and states that Tirivalam referred to in his letter were not likely to endanger the water supply of the Bothmangalam Tank.

15

17 JAN 1919

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

G. 8903-8/1/19

ON O.C.D.O. NO. 5880

Dear Mr. Bauerle Sau 7/8/18

I enclose my note of Inspection of the Mad Keenlay in which vessel being burned the boats & from the new zone of Bata mancela.

The enclosures & the letter under ref. are returned

Yours sincerely

[illegible]

N O T E.

Inspected Betamangala on the 7th. January 1919 accompanied by the Amildar and other local officials. Betamangala is made up of three parts (1) the old Peta (2) Pumping Station and (3) new town.. (1) and (2) have a separate burial ground far below the level of the tank. The people of the new town (about 600) find it too far to go to this burial ground. For the last 15 years, therefore, ever since the new town was founded, the people used to resort to the bed of a 'kuntay' - a small tank known as Madikuntay. This is on a slightly higher level than the Betamangala tank. There were counted 41 graves here. The kuntay has never been known to get filled nor the kodi to discharge. Every drop of water that gathers there is either absorbed by the land itself or goes by percolation into the dry fields below the bund. The distance from this kuntay to the nearest water-spread in Betamangala tank is 2½ furlongs and in many places it is far more. The intervening land consists of dry cultivated fields. No water can possibly get from this kuntay direct to the Betamangala tank. Saw the newly formed grave which is the subject of this report.

The grave is at least 4 furlongs from the water-spred of the Betamangala tank and is practically on a lower level than that of the water in the tank.

There have been no cases of cholera ever since the 19th. December 1918. There have been 7 attacks of vomitting and purging from 30th. December 1918 up to date. All these occurred among the Holeyas who ate the decomposed carcase of a cow. Out of the 20 people that partook of this food, 7 fell ill and 4 died, the last death occurring on the 7th. January. There are three in a convalescent state. The sub-assistant surgeon has been attending on these cases. They are clearly not cases of cholera at all.

To

Telegraphic Address:
"MINBOARD," OORGAUM.

THE KOLAR GOLD FIELD MINING BOARD,
OORGAUM,
MYSORE STATE,
S. INDIA.

D. O. No. F. 5879

3rd January 1919.

A. R. Banerjee Esq., C.I.E., I.C.S.,

Bangalore.

Sir,

I am directed by the Mining Board to forward for favour of perusal the undernoted copies of reports regarding the burial of a number of bodies (including a cholera case) in the bed, and on the borders, of a small tank communicating with the Betamangalam tank, from which it is apparent that the orders issued for the protection of the gathering area of the Betamangalam tank, as a consequence of the representations made to you on the occasion of your interview with the Board in March last, are not being carried out as they should be.

The matter is so serious and disappointing that the Board feel compelled to bring it to your notice, and trust that you will kindly cause suitable notice to be taken of it.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Secretary.

R.

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OORGAUM,
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I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Secretary.

Enclosures :-

(1) Copy of the Kolar Gold Field Assistant Medical Officer's Diary of 12th December 1918.

(2) Copy of the Kolar Gold Field Chief Medical Officer's Diary of 13th December 1918.

(3) Copy of letter No.1037 of 18th December 1918 from the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District, to the Chief Medical Officer, Kolar Gold Field..

Copy.

Kolar Gold Fields,

Medical Officer.

Champion Reef, 12th Dec.1918.

Copy of Asst.Medical Officer Dr.E.T.Freeman's diary of date.

Visited Betamangala re Cholera outbreak in New betamangala and interviewed the Superintendent of the Pumping Station, the Sub-Assistant Surgeon, and the Dist. Medical and Sanitary Officer, Kolar.

The first case occurred on the 6th and was not known of until the 9th when he died. He had been to a village in Kolar Taluk, where there is Cholera, to buy ragi for re-sale at Betamangala. All the fresh cases are immediate contacts and fellow caste men of him, except one who is an indirect contact. The last case occurred yesterday. There were six in all of whom three are dead, one moribund, one likely to recover and one recovered.

I did not see the cases as the District Medical Officer had just visited them and taken all necessary measures including the sending of his Sanitary Inspector to supervise disinfection &c.

I learned that one of the bodies had been buried near the tank. The District Medical Officer said that he would notify the Deputy Commissioner. The Superintendent when he learned of this fact notified the Police Jamadar and asked him to exhume the body. The Jamadar said he could do nothing in the matter. As no one seemed to know what should be done I went to a village some six miles along the Venkatagiri road where Mr. S.M. Pritchard had gone to camp and interviewed him as to the procedure to be adopted. He told me that an order from any Magistrate, the Deputy Commissioner, the special Magistrate, or the Amildar was all that was necessary.

The Deputy Commissioner may not be available as he has gone to Chickballapur.

I saw where the body was buried. It is about 150 yards from the Tank in a direct line from New Bettamangala to the water. There is an old cemetery there above a small tank, which is used for irrigating a few acres of land on the edge of the main tank. The grave is almost in the bed of this little tank. Exhumation of the body is absolutely and immediately necessary.

8

I took samples of water for examination from filters 1 & 2.

Forwarded to G. E. Payne, Esq., Secretary, K. G. F. Mining Board, for information.

(Sd.) John D. O'Donnell,
Chief Medical Officer,
Kolar Gold Fields.

Copy forwarded to :-

The Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

The Special Magistrate,
Kolar Gold Fields.

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9

Copy.

Kolar Gold Fields.

Medical Officer.

Champion Reef, 12th Decr. 1918.

Copy of a letter received from the Medical Officer of Health, Kolar Gold Fields, dated Robertsonpet, 11th December 1918.

"Sir,

The enclosed telephone message was received by me at 5 p.m. The New Betamangalam is situated for away from the Tank. I am leaving this for Bangalore to-morrow morning and Dr. Muthusawmy Doss will be in charge.

Yours truly,

(Sd.) J. V. Mascarenhas.

Copy of telephone message :-

"Cholera has broken out in Betamangala New Town through an imported case from Nelakantapully (Kolar Taluk). Two attacks yesterday and no deaths. This morning 3 attacks and 1 death besides another on the 9th.

Preventive measures have been adopted besides treatment. Patel and Shanbogue have been directed to carry out the inspection."

(Sd.) A. S. Balasundram,

S. A. S.

Forwarded to G. E. Payne, Esq., Secretary, K. G. F. Mining Board, for information. The infected place will be visited to-day by one of the Medical Officers.

(Sd.) John D. O'Donnell,

Chief Medical Officer,

Kolar Gold Fields.

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10

Medical Officer.

The Kolar Gold Fields,
Champion Reef.
14th December 1918.

Copy of the Chief Medical Officer's diary dated the 13th instant.

Visited the New Bettamangalam village with the Vice President, Sanitary Board, at 5 p.m. last evening to try and get the relatives to exhume the cholera corpse reported by Dr. Freeman, as being buried in the bed of a small tank communicating with Bettamangalam tank.

The Vice President has not the power to order exhumation of bodies, except where there is a suspicion of foul play. The relatives were not willing to remove the body to another site, but carried out our suggestion of opening the grave and covering the body with fresh lime. This was done to-day 13th instant (vide letter of Vice President, copy enclosed).

From the 1st July there have been 31 deaths in the village, and a number of the bodies have been buried in the bed and on the borders of the small tank mentioned. I counted four recent graves during my visit.

Incidentally I heard that during last month, a partly cremated body from Kodihalli was thrown into Bettamangalam tank and that proceedings have been taken against the offenders.

The District Medical Officer at Kolar had visited the infected village on the 12th., but what recommendations he made regarding the burial of bodies so near our water supply, or what steps he took in reference to the cholera corpse buried on the 9th instant I do not know.

Considering the strong representations we recently made to Government on the protection of the gathering area of Bettamangalam tank, I am keenly disappointed as to the sanitary results obtained. Here is a village removed from its old site to protect our water supply and I am told a Government order issued forbidding burial in the ground under notice, yet through the supineness of the authorities concerned. no fresh place has been set aside for the

purpose.

Forwarded to G.E. Payne Esq., Secretary, K.G.F. Mining Board, Oorgaum, for information.

Sd. John D. O'Donnell,
Chief Medical Officer,
Kolar Gold Fields.

Copy forwarded to :-

The Sanitary Commissioner, Mysore Govt.

The Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

12

Champion Reef,

13th December 1918.

My dear Doctor,

The Patel of Bethamangala reports that the body which had been buried in the tank bed has been covered with chunam as directed by us yesterday evening.

Sincerely yours,

Sd. M. G. Krishnasami Rao.

17

Daily Report of Cholera for 13th December 1918.

Village or Town.	Bettamangala
Name of Taluk	Bowringpett
Population	1500
Date for which report is made	13th December 1918.
Number of attacks	Nil
Number of deaths	One
No. of attacks from the beginning of outbreak	Six
No. of deaths do.	Four
Date of first attack	6th December 1918.
Remarks as to steps taken to arrest the spread of the disease.	Preventive measures and treatment adopted. Received a report yesterday from the Patel another body was buried in about the place, where quick lime was ordered to be put on. The same report was referred to the Police Jemadar at once for needful action and to prevent henceforth from the burial of dead bodies near the tank margin likely to cause pollution. The Patel has been directed to get the lime put as ordered for the first one.

Bettamangala,
14th Decr.1918.

Sd. A. D. Balasubramaniam.
Sub-Asst. Surgeon.

Forwarded to G. E. Payne Esq., Secretary, K.G.F. Mining Board, for information.

Champion Reef,
15th Decr. 1918.

Sd. John D. O'Donnell,
Chief Medical Officer,
Kolar Gold Fields.

General No.1037. Dated Kolar, the 18th Decr. 1918

From

The Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

To

The Chief Medical Officer,
Kolar Gold Fields.

Regarding Cholera in Bettamangala.

Sir,

In acknowledging with thanks your memo. of the 14th instant, regarding Cholera in Bettamangala, I have the honour to state that I have this day written to the District Medical and Sanitary Officer Kolar, to attend to the proper sanitation of the village and to take immediate steps to check the spread of the epidemic.

Orders have also been issued to the Amildar of Bowringpett Taluk, to arrange for a separate burial ground at a safe distance from the tank.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

Sd. ....

For Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

Copy forwarded to G.E. Payne Esq., Secretary, K.G.F. Mining Board, for information.

Sd. John D. O'Donnell,
Chief Medical Officer,
Kolar Gold Field.

G14232 One

15

Bangalore, 11 January 1919.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of of the 3rd instant to the address of the Dewan regarding the burial of dead bodies in a small tank communicating with the Bethmangalam Tank, I am directed to state that, at the request of Government, the Sanitary Commissioner visited the spot with the local officers on the 7th instant. It will be seen from his report, a copy of which is herewith enclosed, for the information of the Mining Board that the burials referred to in your letter were not likely to endanger the water supply of the Bethmangalam Tank and that to prevent all possibility of pollution thereto, arrangements have been made to set apart a separate burial ground for the high caste residents of Bethmangalam New Town.

I have, &c.,

Chief Secy. to Govt.

To

G.E.Payne Esq.,
Secretary, K.G.F. Mining Board,
Oorgaum.

T 2574 6
10-1-19

10.1

Forwarded to the Chief Secretary for favour of issue.

By order,

10/1/19.

11-1-19